The Round Lake City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, July 12th, 2023 at 6:30pm at City Hall. Councilmembers present were Paul Cunningham, James Adams, Walon Habben, Randy Rowe and Mayor Timothy Kennedy. Others present were Bruce Bentele, Derek Nelson and Clerk Elaine Walker.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions to the agenda – Clayton Energy update on Northern Natural Gas Rate Case info and ad for Bruce’s position.

Motion by Cunningham, second by Habben to approve the agenda and the additions to the agenda. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Habben, second by Rowe to approve the minutes from the June 14th regular meeting. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Cunningham, second by Adams to approve the bills and receipts as presented, including check #23605-23637 & online payments made, to avoid late charges, totaling $79,747.93. Receipts for June totaling $154,089.24. June distributions totaling $432,816.04. All ayes: Carried.

Resolution No. 2023-07-12 – Resolution accepting donation received for the Round Lake Fire Department and DNR Matching Grant, totaling $10,975.00. Motion by Habben, second by Rowe. All ayes: Carried.

Bruce presented his resignation letter to the Council in their packets. He will have his final day with The City of Round Lake on September 29th, 2023. He requested insurance coverage through the end of 2023 with the same percentage paid by himself and the City. Motion by Habben, second by Rowe to accept his resignation effective September 29th, 2023 with the possibility of continuing insurance coverage through the end of December, 2023 and he will retain his cell phone number when leaving the City employment. All ayes: Carried.

The City has a wagon to collect pop cans and has applied the revenue to the park fund over the years. Motion by Habben, second by Adams to allow the Boy Scouts access to the revenue possibility through removing the City wagon and Clerk Elaine will put it in the newsletter to put pop cans in the one on Second Avenue that benefits the Boy Scouts moving forward. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Rowe, second by Cunningham to accept the quotes for seal coat and repair estimates from M.R. Paving and Excavating, Inc. for Harrison Street, Railroad Avenue, City Park Pathways for $38,943.60 and the basketball court and path to the bathrooms in the park for $2,917.20. All ayes: Carried.

The fire department met on Monday night and will order the washer/dryer for the turnout gear. Does the City want to organize the plumber and contractor to do the remodel of the women’s bathroom to house them? Or should the fire department contact someone? Motion by Adams, second by Cunningham to have the City oversee the remodel and hire the contractor and plumber needed. Habben apposed, Rowe approved and motion carried.

Derek Nelson informed the Council that he would like to pour a cement pad for the odorant tank for the Natural Gas department. Mayor Tim told him that would be considered maintenance and to go ahead and get it done.

The ad to fill Bruce’s position will run for 4 weeks and Clerk Elaine will check into pricing for local newspapers and radio. Committee to review applications and narrow the list of possible interviews will be Walon Habben, Mayor Tim and Derek Nelson. They will meet after the deadline to submit applications to narrow down candidates that will be interviewed. Motion by Rowe, second by Cunningham to approve the members of the committee. Habben abstained from the vote and Adams approved. Motion carried.

Clayton Energy will be issuing a refund for the rate case from Northern Natural Gas, now that it has been settled. The refund to the City of Round Lake can either be as a check or they can spread it over months as a credit until the full amount has been refunded. Motion by Adams, second by Rowe to have a check mailed for the total amount to the City. All ayes: Carried.

The next City Council meeting will be on Wednesday, August 9th, 2023 at 6:30pm at City Hall.

Motion by Habben to adjourn, second by Adams. All ayes: Carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:28pm.